

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- Sub 1 R 2*
1. A method for information monitoring, delivery, and notification comprising:
    - 3 receiving a request for information;
    - 4 receiving criteria for delivery of the requested information;
    - 5 monitoring an information source for satisfaction of the delivery
    - 6 criteria;
    - 7 delivering the requested information from the information source to
    - 8 an Internet-enabled television system in response to the delivery criteria being
    - 9 satisfied; and
    - 10 notifying a user concerning the delivered information using the
    - 11 Internet-enabled television system.
  - 1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
    - 2 reserving a communication channel for delivery of the requested
    - 3 information.
  - 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the reserved communication
  - 2 channel comprises an MPEG channel.
  - 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein reserving a communication
  - 2 channel comprises:
    - 3 storing an indication of the reserved MPEG channel within a private
    - 4 information indexing table; and
    - 5 transmitting the private information indexing table to the Internet-
    - 6 enabled television system.

1               5. The method of claim 4, further comprising:  
2               setting an information monitoring trigger within the Internet-enabled  
3 television system for detecting information received on the reserved MPEG  
4 channel.

1               6. The method of claim 3, wherein delivering comprises:  
2               retrieving the requested information from the information source;  
3               encoding the requested information for transmission using the  
4 reserved MPEG channel; and  
5               transmitting the encoded information to the Internet-enabled  
6 television using a cable delivery network.

1               7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2               receiving a user selection of a notification format for the delivered  
3 information.

1               8. The method of claim 7, wherein notifying a user comprises:  
2               notifying the user concerning the delivered information using the  
3 selected notification format.

1               9. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving a request for  
2 information comprises:  
3               providing a hierarchically-arranged list of information categories;  
4 and  
5               receiving a user selection of an information category from the  
6 hierarchically-arranged list.

1           10. The method of claim 1, wherein the Internet-enabled  
2 television system provides a graphical user interface, and wherein notifying a  
3 user comprises:

4                 displaying the delivered information in a designated area of the  
5 graphical user interface.

1           11. The method of claim 1, wherein notifying a user comprises:  
2                 superimposing the delivered information over a television program  
3 displayed by the Internet-enabled television system.

1           12. The method of claim 11, wherein superimposing the  
2 delivered information comprises:  
3                 horizontally scrolling the superimposed information in a ticker  
4 format.

1           13. The method of claim 1, wherein notifying a user comprises:  
2                 displaying a delivery notice on the Internet-enabled television  
3 system; and  
4                 displaying the delivered information on the Internet-enabled  
5 television system in response to a subsequent user action.

1           14. The method of claim 1, wherein notifying a user comprises:  
2                 sending an e-mail message to the user comprising a notice of the  
3 delivered information.

1           15. A system for information monitoring, delivery, and notification  
2 comprising:

3                   a user registration component configured to receive a request for  
4 information and to receive criteria for delivery of the requested information;  
5                   an information monitoring component configured to monitor an  
6 information source for satisfaction of the delivery criteria;  
7                   an information delivery component configured to deliver the  
8 requested information from the information source to an Internet-enabled  
9 television system in response to the delivery criteria being satisfied; and  
10                  a user notification component within the Internet-enabled television  
11 system configured to notify a user concerning the delivered information.

1                 16. The system of claim 15, further comprising:  
2                   a communication channel reservation component configured to  
3 reserve a communication channel for delivery of the requested information.

1                 17. The system of claim 15, wherein the reserved  
2 communication channel comprises an MPEG channel.

1                 18. The system of claim 17, wherein the communication channel  
2 reservation component is further configured to store an indication of the reserved  
3 MPEG channel within a private information indexing table and transmit the private  
4 information indexing table to the Internet-enabled television system.

1                 19. The system of claim 18, wherein the user notification  
2 component is further configured to set an information monitoring trigger for  
3 detecting information received on the reserved MPEG channel.

1                 20. The system of claim 15, wherein the information delivery  
2 component is further configured to retrieve the requested information from the

3 information source, encode the requested information for transmission using the  
4 reserved MPEG channel, and transmit the encoded information to the Internet-  
5 enabled television using a cable delivery network.

1               21. The system of claim 15, wherein the user registration  
2 component is further configured to receive a user selection of a notification format  
3 for the delivered information.

1               22. The system of claim 21, wherein the user notification  
2 component is further configured to notify the user concerning the delivered  
3 information using the selected notification format.

1               23. The system of claim 15, wherein the user notification  
2 component is further configured to provide a hierarchically-arranged list of  
3 information categories and receive a user selection of an information category  
4 from the hierarchically-arranged list.

1               24. The system of claim 15, wherein the Internet-enabled  
2 television system provides a graphical user interface, and wherein the notification  
3 component is further configured to display the delivered information in a  
4 designated area of the graphical user interface.

1               25. The system of claim 15, wherein the user notification  
2 component is further configured to superimpose the delivered information over a  
3 television program displayed by the Internet-enabled television system.

1               26. The system of claim 25, wherein the user notification  
2 component is further configured to horizontally scroll the superimposed  
3 information in a ticker format.

1           27. The system of claim 15, wherein the user notification  
2 component is further configured to display a delivery notice on the Internet-  
3 enabled television system and displaying the delivered information on the  
4 Internet-enabled television system in response to a subsequent user action.

1           28. The system of claim 15, wherein the user notification  
2 component is further configured to send an e-mail message to the user  
3 comprising a notice of the delivered information.

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